

Message Text

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44

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SYE-00 SSO-00 SS-15 PRS-01 A-01

MCT-01 INR-07 CIAE-00 /041 W

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P 111105Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9634

USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ASEC PINS EG

SUBJ: LETTER THREAT TARGETING FSIO THOMAS A. HOMAN, CAO CAIRO

REF: CAIRO 16902

1. THREAT TO FSIO HOMAN SURFACED IN PRESS ON FRONT PAGE OF AKHBAR UNDER BYLINE OF LOWER LEVEL POLICE REPORTER. NEITHER AHAM NOR GUMHURRIYA CARRIED THE STORY.

2. HOMAN RECEIVED CALL FROM UPI ON EVENING OF DECEMBER 10, AFTER "EARLY BIRD" EDITION APPEARED, ASKING FOR CONFIRMATION. HE CONFIRMED THAT SUCH A NOTE HAD BEEN RECEIVED, THAT HE CONSIDERED IT A CRANK MESSAGE, BUT THAT EGYPTIAN AUTHORITIES WERE INVESTIGATING AT EMBASSY REQUEST, EVEN THOUGH IT DID NOT APPEAR SERIOUS THREAT. AS FAR AS SECURITY MEASURES AT HIS RESIDENCE ARE CONCERNED, HOMAN NOTED THAT ALL AMERICAN DIPLOMATS HAVE 24 HOUR PROTECTION. HOMAN SUGGESTED TO UPI THAT THIS IS A NON-STORY AND SHOULD NOT BE GIVEN PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE.

3. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF AKHBAR NEWS ITEM QUOTE:
THREAT THE AMERICAN WAY: 100 THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR THE POOR, OR YOU WILL BE KILLED. MAHMOUD SALAH REPORTED:
THE SECURITY OFFICER OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN CAIRO REPORTED THAT AN ANONYMOUS PERSON THREW A LETTER AT THE DOOR OF THE FLAT OF THOMAS HOMAN, THE EMBASSY'S FIRST SECRETARY. THE LETTER IS WRITTEN IN ENGLISH AND
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THREATENS OF KILLING THE SECRETARY OF THE EMBASSY IF HE

DOES NOT DISTRIBUTE THE SUM OF ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS TO THE POOR. THE SECURITY OFFICER DID NOT ACCUSE ANYONE. THE STATE SECURITY PROSECUTION OFFICE WAS NOTIFIED. STRICT GUARDING MEASURES OF THE HOUSE OF THE EMBASSY'S SECRETARY WAS IMPOSED. SECURITY APPARATUS HAS STARTED WIDE INVESTIGATION TO KNOW THE SENDER. UNQUOTE.

4. COMMENT. THOUGH ARTICLE IMPLIES EMBASSY SECURITY OFFICER REPORTED INCIDENT TO AKHBAR REPORTER, HE OF COURSE REPORTED IT ONLY TO POLICE AUTHORITIES AND HAS HAD NO CONTACT WITH PRESS. HOMAN'S COMMENTS TO UPI REPORTER WERE IN ACCORD WITH GUIDANCE PROVIDED HIM BY DCM WITH AMBASSADOR'S APPROVAL. WE ARE DISCREETLY ENDEAVORING FIND OUT WHY AKHBAR DECIDED PRINT STORY, WHICH IT MUST HAVE GOTTEN FROM POLICE SOURCES. WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING WHETHER UPI STORY GETS ANY PLAY IN U.S. PRESS.
EILTS

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